



## **Bovine Environmental Sampling Instructions for *Salmonella* spp.**

### **WVDL *Salmonella* Environmental Monitoring Sampling Kit includes:**

- Sterile Buffered Peptone Water (BPW): 9ml with attached pre-moistened swabs  
n = 12
- Pairs of Buffered Peptone Water (BPW) Boot Cover Swabs  
n = 2
- One-8-ounce ice pack
- 6 x 9 resealable plastic bags  
n = 3
- One-Insulated Shipping Envelope
- WVDL Submission Form
- Bovine Environmental Sampling Instructions for *Salmonella* spp
- UPS Return Shipping Label

### **Upon Arrival**

Upon **receipt** of the sampling kit, **place** the 8-ounce ice pack in **a household freezer**. The ice-pack must be completely frozen before the environmental sampling is done. The BPW swabs and boot swabs can be stored at room temperature until use.

### **Sampling Locations**

The following areas are considered high risk and are potential sample sites: close-up pen floor, close-up pen feed bunk, close-up pen waterers (inside wall of waterer), calving pen floor, calving pen waterer, calving pen feed bunk, calf transporter(s), warming box, floor in the calf feed mixing room, alleyways in the calf barn, floors and walls of the calf pens and some of the calf feeding equipment, which includes the colostrum collection equipment.

### **Sampling Instructions – Swabs**

**BPW swabs are intended for small area sampling up to 1 square foot, equipment, and hard to reach places**

1. Unscrew cap from the swab tube and press each side of the swab tip against the inside of the tube to remove excess media, taking care not to touch the tips of the polyurethane foam swab with your fingers. Gloves are recommended.
2. Press down firmly and vigorously swab a 6-inch x 6-inch square area while rotating swab simultaneously to ensure entire swab tip makes contact.
3. Place swab in the BPW media side of tube.
4. Repeat this process 2-3 times in same area in different directions until the BPW is noticeably discolored with organic material.
5. After swabbing is complete screw swab top on to the BPW media tube. The other side can be screwed on or discarded.
6. Ensure the lid is screwed tightly on the tube and legibly write the sampling location on the side of the tube. For example, calf barn: east alleyway floor.
7. Repeat the process again with a different BPW swab for different locations until the environmental sampling is completed.

## Sampling Instructions – Boot Cover Swabs

**Boot swabs work extremely well to sample large surface area such as livestock trailers, maternity pens, transitional pens, and alleyways in barns**

1. Wash hands prior to using the boot swab and wear gloves to protect hands from conditions encountered during sampling and to also protect the sample from cross-contamination.
2. Immediately before sampling slip a disposable plastic boot cover (Cat # C14019WA) over a single shoe or boot to protect personal clothing and to prevent cross-contamination of the sample from shoe sole carryover. (Alternatively one may use a dedicated boot from the target barn.)
3. Next, fit the boot swab. Hold the boot swab kit in your hands and carefully tear open the Twirl-tie bag at the upper perforation above the twist-tie. Carefully remove the pre-moistened boot swab from the Twirl-tie bag and place it securely over your boot/shoe.
4. Walk the entire length of one side of the row/bank in the livestock facility. If sampling multiple rows/banks, use fresh gloves, boot swab(s) and plastic boot cover(s) for each row/bank. (As the sampling plan may vary for each facility, consult your HACCP plan to ensure proper sampling for your housing.)
5. Immediately after sample collection carefully remove the boot swab and return it to its original Twirl-tie bag. Seal the bag and identify the sample with the pertinent information.
6. Change gloves and put on a new pair of plastic boot covers. Repeat the same process for the 2nd pair and subsequent boot swabs.

## Shipping Instructions

- Completely fill out the WVDL Submission Form making sure that the locations listed on the BPW tubes and Twirl-tie bags **matches** the locations listed on the WVDL submission form.
- Make sure the position number on the submission form matches the position number on the BPW swabs and Twirl-tie bags containing the boot swabs. For example, if the calf pen floor is the fifth environmental sample listed on the WVDL Submission Form then the tube/Twirl-tie that contains the calf pen floor sample should be marked with position # 5 as well.
- Specimen type: **Environmental Swabs in BPW and Booties**
- Test(s) requested: ***Salmonella* Culture From Diagnostic-Related, Non-Biological Samples** (10846)
- Place the WVDL Submission Form in the plastic bag and then place the plastic-bag inside the insulated shipping envelope.
- Double-check that the caps of the BPW tubes are screwed shut and place the tubes in the other plastic bag and place in the insulated shipping envelope along with the **frozen** 8-ounce ice pack.
- Seal the insulated shipping envelope closed. Make sure the insulated shipping envelope is completely sealed shut. It has a recloseable zip lock and an adhesive sealing feature.
- Place the UPS Return Label on the outside of the insulated shipping envelope.
- Drop-off the insulated shipping envelope at any UPS-store location in the continental United States or request that UPS pick up at your location.

For more information about *Salmonella* testing options and turnaround time please contact the WVDL at (608) 262-5432 or [Salmonella@wvdl.wisc.edu](mailto:Salmonella@wvdl.wisc.edu) and use our website at [wvdl.wisc.edu](http://wvdl.wisc.edu).